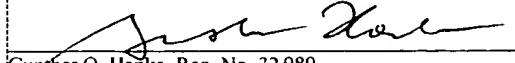




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Gunther O. Hanke, Reg. No. 32,989

28/F
B. Webb
2/2/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 08/843,711
Applicants : Celso S. J. Bagaoisan et al.
Filed : April 16, 1997
Title : **INTRAVASCULAR CATHETER WITH REPLACEABLE SHAFT SECTION**
Art Unit : 3762
Examiner : Sharon E. Kennedy

Docket No.: : ACSC 59868 (0848RE)
Customer No. : 24201

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 29 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the final Office Action of November 18, 2003, the response for which is due February 18, 2004. Please amend and reconsider the above-referenced application.

Claims start on page 2.

Remarks start on page 9.